

# **WOLF CREEK** NUCLEAR OPERATING CORPORATION

Britt T. McKinney  
Vice President Operations

**DEC 11 2001**

WO 01-0052

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D. C. 20555

**Subject: Docket No. 50-482: Application for Technical Specification Change Regarding Missed Surveillances Using the Consolidated Line Item Improvement Process (CLIIP)**

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 50.90, Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (WCNOC) herewith transmits an application for amendment to Facility Operating License NPF-42 for the Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS).

The proposed amendment would modify the Technical Specification (TS) requirements for missed surveillances in Surveillance Requirement (SR) 3.0.3 as well as modify the associated TS Bases. The changes are consistent with Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approved Industry/Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) STS change TSTF-358 Revision 6. The availability of this TS improvement was published in the Federal Register on September 28, 2001 (Federal Register Notice 66 FR 49714) as part of the consolidated line item improvement process (CLIIP).

WCNOC is submitting this license amendment application in conjunction with an industry consortium of five plants as a result of a mutual agreement known as Strategic Teaming and Resource Sharing (STARS). The STARS group consists of the five plants operated by TXU Electric, Union Electric Company, WCNOC, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, and STP Nuclear Operating Company. The other members of the above group can be expected to submit license amendment requests similar to this one, with the exception of STP Nuclear Operating Company due to the vintage of their TS. They intend to adopt a TS Bases Control Program. In addition, Arizona Public Service Company can be expected to submit a similar license amendment application.

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Attachment I provides a description and assessment of the proposed change, the requested confirmation of applicability, and plant-specific verifications. Attachment II provides the existing TS pages marked up to show the proposed change. Attachment III provides revised (clean) TS pages. Attachment IV provides the existing TS Bases pages marked up to show the proposed change. Final TS Bases changes will be implemented pursuant to TS 5.5.14, Technical Specification Bases Control Program. Attachment IV is provided for information only; however, WCNOG will adopt these TS Bases changes upon implementation of the license amendment.

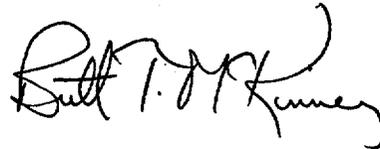
The WCNOG Plant Safety Review Committee and the Nuclear Safety Review Committee have reviewed this amendment application.

It has been determined that this amendment application does not involve a significant hazard consideration in accordance with 10 CFR 50.92. Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

Approval of this amendment application is requested by June 3, 2002. Once approved, this amendment will be implemented within 60 days.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.91, a copy of this application, with attachments, is being provided to the designated Kansas State Official. If you should have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact me at (620) 364-4112, or Mr. Tony Harris at (620) 364-4038.

Very truly yours,



Britt T. McKinney

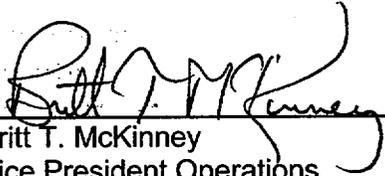
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- Attachments:
- I - Description and Assessment
  - II - Proposed Technical Specification Changes
  - III - Revised Technical Specification Pages
  - IV - Proposed Technical Specification Bases Changes (for information only)
  - V - List of Commitments

cc: V. L. Cooper (KDHE), w/a  
J. N. Donohew (NRC), w/a  
W. D. Johnson (NRC), w/a  
E. W. Merschoff (NRC), w/a  
Senior Resident Inspector (NRC), w/a

STATE OF KANSAS )  
 ) SS  
COUNTY OF COFFEY )

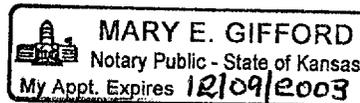
Britt T. McKinney, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon oath says that he is Vice President Operations of Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation; that he has read the foregoing document and knows the contents thereof; that he has executed the same for and on behalf of said Corporation with full power and authority to do so; and that the facts therein stated are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

By   
Britt T. McKinney  
Vice President Operations

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 11<sup>th</sup> day of Dec , 2001.

Mary E. Gifford.  
Notary Public

Expiration Date 12/09/2003



**ATTACHMENT I**  
**DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT**

## **DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT**

### **1.0 DESCRIPTION**

The proposed amendment would modify Technical Specification (TS) requirements for missed surveillances in Surveillance Requirement (SR) 3.0.3.

The changes are consistent with Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approved Industry/Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) STS change TSTF-358 Revision 6. TSTF-358, Revision 6, incorporates the modifications made to TSTF-358, Revision 5, by Federal Register Notice 66 FR 32400 of June 14, 2001, and in response to public comments. The availability of this TS improvement was published in the Federal Register on September 28, 2001 (Federal Register Notice 66 FR 49714) as part of the consolidated line item improvement process (CLIP).

### **2.0 ASSESSMENT**

#### **2.1 Applicability of Published Safety Evaluation**

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (WCNOC) has reviewed the proposed safety evaluation dated June 14, 2001, as modified in response to the comments noticed on September 28, 2001, as part of the CLIP. This review included a review of the NRC staff's evaluation, as well as the supporting information provided to support TSTF-358. WCNOC has concluded that the justifications presented in the TSTF proposal and the safety evaluation prepared by the NRC staff are applicable to the Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS) and justify this amendment for the incorporation of the changes to the WCGS TS.

#### **2.2 Optional Changes and Variations**

WCNOC is not proposing any variations or deviations from the TS changes described in TSTF-358, Revision 6, or the NRC staff's model safety evaluation dated June 14, 2001, as modified in response to the comments noticed on September 28, 2001.

### **3.0 REGULATORY ANALYSIS**

#### **3.1 No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination**

WCNOC has reviewed the proposed no significant hazards consideration determination (NSHCD) published in the Federal Register as part of the CLIP. The modifications to TSTF-358 and the proposed safety evaluation noticed on September 28, 2001, as part of the CLIP, do not affect the NSHCD published in the Federal Register notice of June 14, 2001. WCNOC has concluded that the proposed NSHCD presented in the Federal Register notice is applicable to WCGS and is hereby incorporated by reference to satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 50.91(a).

### **3.2 Verification and Commitments**

As discussed in the notice of availability published in the Federal Register on September 28, 2001, for this TS improvement, plant-specific verifications were performed as described below.

WCNOC has established TS Bases for SR 3.0.3 which state that use of the delay period established by SR 3.0.3 is a flexibility which is not intended to be used as an operational convenience to extend surveillance intervals, but only for the performance of missed surveillances.

The modification will also include changes to the Bases for SR 3.0.3 that provide details on how to implement the new requirements. The Bases changes provide guidance for surveillance frequencies that are not based on time intervals but are based on specified unit conditions, operating situations, or requirements of regulations. In addition, the Bases changes state that WCNOC is expected to perform a missed surveillance test at the first reasonable opportunity, taking into account appropriate considerations, such as the impact on plant risk and accident analysis assumptions, consideration of unit conditions, planning, availability of personnel, and the time required to perform the surveillance. The Bases also state that the risk impact should be managed through the program in place to implement 10 CFR 50.65(a)(4) and its implementation guidance, NRC Regulatory Guide 1.182, "Assessing and Managing Risks Before Maintenance Activities at Nuclear Power Plants," and that the missed surveillance should be treated as an emergent condition, as discussed in Regulatory Guide 1.182. In addition, the Bases state that the degree of depth and rigor of the evaluation should be commensurate with the importance of the component and that missed surveillances for important components should be analyzed quantitatively. The Bases also state that the results of the risk evaluation determine the safest course of action. In addition, the Bases state that all missed surveillances will be placed in the licensee's Corrective Action Program. Finally, WCNOC has a Bases Control Program consistent with Section 5.5 of the Standard Technical Specifications.

### **4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION**

WCNOC has reviewed the environmental evaluation included in the model safety evaluation dated June 14, 2001 as part of the CLIIP. The modifications to TSTF-358 and the proposed safety evaluation noticed on September 28, 2001, as part of the CLIIP, do not affect the environmental evaluation published in the Federal Register notice of June 14, 2001. WCNOC has concluded that the staff's findings presented in that evaluation are applicable to WCGS and the evaluation is hereby incorporated into this application.

**ATTACHMENT II**  
**PROPOSED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION CHANGES**

**3.0 SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT (SR) APPLICABILITY**

SR 3.0.1 SRs shall be met during the MODES or other specified conditions in the Applicability for individual LCOs, unless otherwise stated in the SR. Failure to meet a Surveillance, whether such failure is experienced during the performance of the Surveillance or between performances of the Surveillance, shall be failure to meet the LCO. Failure to perform a Surveillance within the specified Frequency shall be failure to meet the LCO except as provided in SR 3.0.3. Surveillances do not have to be performed on inoperable equipment or variables outside specified limits.

SR 3.0.2 The specified Frequency for each SR is met if the Surveillance is performed within 1.25 times the interval specified in the Frequency, as measured from the previous performance or as measured from the time a specified condition of the Frequency is met.

For Frequencies specified as "once," the above interval extension does not apply.

If a Completion Time requires periodic performance on a "once per . . ." basis, the above Frequency extension applies to each performance after the initial performance.

Exceptions to this Specification are stated in the individual Specifications.

SR 3.0.3 If it is discovered that a Surveillance was not performed within its specified Frequency, then compliance with the requirement to declare the LCO not met may be delayed, from the time of discovery, up to 24 hours or up to the limit of the specified Frequency, whichever is ~~less~~. This delay period is permitted to allow performance of the Surveillance.

If the Surveillance is not performed within the delay period, the LCO must immediately be declared not met, and the applicable Condition(s) must be entered.

When the Surveillance is performed within the delay period and the Surveillance is not met, the LCO must immediately be declared not met, and the applicable Condition(s) must be entered.

A risk evaluation shall be performed for any Surveillance delayed greater than 24 hours and the risk impact shall be managed.

(continued)

**ATTACHMENT III**  
**REVISED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION PAGES**

### 3.0 SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT (SR) APPLICABILITY

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SR 3.0.1 SRs shall be met during the MODES or other specified conditions in the Applicability for individual LCOs, unless otherwise stated in the SR. Failure to meet a Surveillance, whether such failure is experienced during the performance of the Surveillance or between performances of the Surveillance, shall be failure to meet the LCO. Failure to perform a Surveillance within the specified Frequency shall be failure to meet the LCO except as provided in SR 3.0.3. Surveillances do not have to be performed on inoperable equipment or variables outside specified limits.

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SR 3.0.2 The specified Frequency for each SR is met if the Surveillance is performed within 1.25 times the interval specified in the Frequency, as measured from the previous performance or as measured from the time a specified condition of the Frequency is met.

For Frequencies specified as "once," the above interval extension does not apply.

If a Completion Time requires periodic performance on a "once per . . ." basis, the above Frequency extension applies to each performance after the initial performance.

Exceptions to this Specification are stated in the individual Specifications.

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SR 3.0.3 If it is discovered that a Surveillance was not performed within its specified Frequency, then compliance with the requirement to declare the LCO not met may be delayed, from the time of discovery, up to 24 hours or up to the limit of the specified Frequency, whichever is greater. This delay period is permitted to allow performance of the Surveillance. A risk evaluation shall be performed for any Surveillance delayed greater than 24 hours and the risk impact shall be managed.

If the Surveillance is not performed within the delay period, the LCO must immediately be declared not met, and the applicable Condition(s) must be entered.

When the Surveillance is performed within the delay period and the Surveillance is not met, the LCO must immediately be declared not met, and the applicable Condition(s) must be entered.

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(continued)

3.0 SR Applicability (continued)

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SR 3.0.4            Entry into a MODE or other specified condition in the Applicability of an LCO shall not be made unless the LCO's Surveillances have been met within their specified Frequency. This provision shall not prevent entry into MODES or other specified conditions in the Applicability that are required to comply with ACTIONS or that are part of a shutdown of the unit.

SR 3.0.4 is only applicable for entry into a MODE or other specified condition in the Applicability in MODES 1, 2, 3, and 4.

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**ATTACHMENT IV**  
**PROPOSED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION BASES CHANGES**

**BASES**

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SR 3.0.2  
(continued)

the function of the inoperable equipment in an alternative manner.

The provisions of SR 3.0.2 are not intended to be used repeatedly merely as an operational convenience to extend Surveillance intervals (other than those consistent with refueling intervals) or periodic Completion Time intervals beyond those specified.

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SR 3.0.3

SR 3.0.3 establishes the flexibility to defer declaring affected equipment inoperable or an affected variable outside the specified limits when a Surveillance has not been completed within the specified Frequency. A delay period of up to 24 hours or up to the limit of the specified Frequency, whichever is ~~less~~, applies from the point in time that it is discovered that the Surveillance has not been performed in accordance with SR 3.0.2, and not at the time that the specified Frequency was not met.

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This delay period provides adequate time to complete Surveillances that have been missed. This delay period permits the completion of a Surveillance before complying with Required Actions or other remedial measures that might preclude completion of the Surveillance.

The basis for this delay period includes consideration of unit conditions, adequate planning, availability of personnel, the time required to perform the Surveillance, the safety significance of the delay in completing the required Surveillance, and the recognition that the most probable result of any particular Surveillance being performed is the verification of conformance with the requirements.

INSERT 1

~~When a Surveillance with a Frequency based not on time intervals, but upon specified unit conditions or operational situations, is discovered not to have been performed when specified, SR 3.0.3 allows the full delay period of 24 hours to perform the Surveillance.~~

~~SR 3.0.3 also provides a time limit for completion of Surveillances that become applicable as a consequence of MODE changes imposed by Required Actions.~~

Failure to comply with specified Frequencies for SRs is expected to be an infrequent occurrence. Use of the delay period established by SR 3.0.3 is a flexibility which is not intended to be used as an operational convenience to extend Surveillance intervals.

INSERT 2

If a Surveillance is not completed within the allowed delay period, then the equipment is considered inoperable or the variable is considered outside the specified limits and the Completion Times of the Required Actions for

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INSERT 1

When a Surveillance with a Frequency based not on time intervals, but upon specified unit conditions, operating situations, or requirements of regulations (e.g., prior to entering MODE 1 after each fuel loading, or in accordance with 10 CFR 50, Appendix J, as modified by approved exemptions, etc.) is discovered to not have been performed when specified, SR 3.0.3 allows for the full delay period of up to the specified Frequency to perform the Surveillance. However, since there is not a time interval specified, the missed Surveillance should be performed at the first reasonable opportunity.

SR 3.0.3 provides a time limit for, and allowances for the performance of, Surveillances that become applicable as a consequence of MODE changes imposed by Required Actions.

INSERT 2

While up to 24 hours or the limit of the specified Frequency is provided to perform the missed Surveillance, it is expected that the missed Surveillance will be performed at the first reasonable opportunity. The determination of the first reasonable opportunity should include consideration of the impact on plant risk (from delaying the Surveillance as well as any plant configuration changes required or shutting the plant down to perform the Surveillance) and impact on any analysis assumptions, in addition to unit conditions, planning, availability of personnel, and the time required to perform the Surveillance. This risk impact should be managed through the program in place to implement 10 CFR 50.65(a)(4) and its implementation guidance, NRC Regulatory Guide 1.182, "Assessing and Managing Risk Before Maintenance Activities at Nuclear Power Plants." This Regulatory Guide addresses consideration of temporary and aggregate risk impacts, determination of risk management action thresholds, and risk management action up to and including plant shutdown. The missed Surveillance should be treated as an emergent condition as discussed in the Regulatory Guide. The risk evaluation may use quantitative, qualitative, or blended methods. The degree of depth and rigor of the evaluation should be commensurate with the importance of the component. Missed Surveillances for important components should be analyzed quantitatively. If the results of the risk evaluation determine the risk increase is significant, this evaluation should be used to determine the safest course of action. All missed Surveillances will be placed in the licensee's Corrective Action Program.

**LIST OF COMMITMENTS**

The following table identifies those actions committed to by Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (WCNOC) in this document. Any other statements in this submittal are provided for information purposes and are not considered to be commitments. Please direct questions regarding these commitments to Mr. Tony Harris, Manager Regulatory Affairs at Wolf Creek Generating Station, (620) 364-4038.

<b>COMMITMENT</b>	<b>Due Date/Event</b>
WCNOC will adopt these TS Bases changes upon implementation of the license amendment.	Implementation of amendment
On approval of the license amendment request, the amendment will be implemented within 60 days.	Within 60 days of approval